UNE INFOLETTRE PUNK MONTRÉALAISE + DIY SHOW LIST #40 AOÛT 2026 FREE

LA CHAÎNE

bastardidol

BASTARD IDOL erupted onto my radar last year with their Demo Fest release – a four track, noisy, chaotic d-beat assault. With members split between Toronto and Montreal they don't play often, but when they do it's a treat – you can (and should) catch them at their tour kickoff show Wednesday August 12th at Lopez or at Varning in September (or both). Thanks to Emily, Felix, Melody and Seb for answering a few questions ahead of their first tour to the east coast in a few weeks. Interview by Taylor.

Emily, BASTARD IDOL is mostly your brainchild right? what made you wanna do this project and did you have a certain sound you were going for? Any particular references or inspiration?

Emily: Yeah I had this idea years ago when I first moved to Toronto. One of my favourite albums of all time is creation and destroy by D-CLONE and the idea was to try and do a direct rip off. You can only try to actually get there though because they are the best so we ended up with what I recorded and wrote with kai in one session. I think Felix and I always want to play this kind of music so I immediately showed them and they were into it then we asked melody to do vocals cause I had seen her in HUMAN FORM and then we got Seb to come for guitar and the rest is history

Melody: Emily said "D-CLONE?" and i said "YES"

Felix: I was super excited about those first four songs as soon as I heard them. For a while I was just like, oh if Emily ever starts this band in Toronto, I want one of my bands in Montreal to play with them haha. I think I even pitched doing it as a split tape with THE NOT at one point. Emily and I recorded a couple more demos with Kai when I came to visit her in Toronto during march break of last year, then we suddenly had 8 d-beat songs that went well together, which made our set for our first show w RECALL et al

Seb: Felix approached me at an underpass gig and asked me if i wanted to join a dbeat band with them and Emily and I was sold on it before I had even heard the demo hahah, I think Felix asked me to join PROGRESS? in the same conversation

Incredible. so it hasn't been too logistically difficult being split between Toronto and Montreal?

Emily: I was already coming around a lot for TORPOR so for me personally it hasn't been too difficult. We just practice and write when we can.

It kinda makes everything feel intentionally limited edition, which I think is fun. I would rather play fewer shows and have people (hopefully) be more amped when we do get to play

Melody, is this the first band you're a roaming vocalist in? How did you figure out what to do with your body? Asking for someone who is scared to do vocals without an instrument (me)

Melody: I used to drum and do vocals in a grindcore band called PALEOLITHIC BRAIN SURGERY. this is my first time being totally free from an instrument and while it scared the absolute fuck out of me at first, i feel i have stepped into the role pretty well!! it's nice to get to kinda release the inner maniac, make scary faces, jump and kick the air... i think the hardest thing about it has been relearning the use of my diaphragm while not sitting and trying to not blow out my voice.

What's your favorite vocal warm up, and what is your technique for perfect crop tops?

Melody: still trying to nail down the best warm ups that work for me but i have mostly felt staying extremely hydrated beforehand and fake yawning, saying letters that start with H, has been helpful

hahaha i honestly never measure or think too hard about chopping away at a t-shirt, best tip is a good pair of fabric scissors, makes cutting straight a lil easier

You're getting ready to leave on an east coast rip with TORPOR [which Emily and Felix both play in as well]. Where are you going, and have you been there before? any places or shows you're particularly excited about?

Emily: We're doing Mtl, Fredricton, Halifax and Charlottetown! I'm excited for Charlottetown because I've never been and I want to go in the ocean! And I want to see all the trees driving through Quebec

Felix: Excited to go to Fredericton for the first time & see what the scene is like there! We're playing with PIPER MARU there and in PEI, and I haven't seen them since their return. We're also playing with DESPERTÁ in Halifax and Secret Trash fest in PEI and I always enjoy seeing them. Of course looking forward to playing with BLACK DOG at our Halifax show, probably my favourite Canadian band the last couple years.

BASTARD IDOL at La Sotterenea, photo by Slim. Above: tour poster by Melody

(Interview continues on back...)

AUGUST SHOWS

Samedi 1 août – Saturday August 1

NNB Matinée: TOWER OF ONE (Connecticut), SLACKER (Hamilton), BASTÓN, HURTA, AREA 9
@ Quai des Brumes - 13h - $20 (included w/ fest pass)

Noise Not Borders: LASSO (Salvador, Brazil), SOGA (CDMX), JUG (Winnipeg), INHUMANE (Hamilton), EXTRAÑA HUMANA, DJINN, APÁTRIDAS
@ La Sala Rossa - 19h30 - $40/45

BATTERY MARCH (Boston), CESNA, APATRIDAS
@ Turbo Haus - 14h - $15

REVERSAL OF MAN (Florida), NØ MAN (D.C.), COMMITMENT (Philly), JETSAM
@ Turbo Haus - 20h - $20 NOTAFLOF

Dimanche 2 août – Sunday August 2

Wild pride trans musician showcase (funds for ASTTeQ): PYROCENE DEATH CULT, TALL SHADOWS, MOTHER MARY, PUDDING CHOMEUR, HYSTERICAL MATERIALIST @ La Sotterenea - 19h - $15-25 sugg.

Mercredi 5 août – Wednesday August 5

CELL ROT (SF), VERIFY, TRENCHCOAT
@ Exhibit A - 19h - $10-20 NOTAFLOF AA

Samedi 8 août – Saturday August 8

PISS (Vancouver), THEE SOREHEADS, POOLGIRL
@ La Toscadura - 19h

Mercredi 12 août – Wednesday August 12

BASTARD IDOL (Toronto/Mtl), TORPOR (Toronto/Mtl), PEARL (Baltimore), CASCADES
@ Lopez - 19h - $10-15 NOTAFLOF AA

Samedi 15 août – Saturday August 15

Blood Moon Ritual fest fundraiser ft: DJINN, ERROR 804, NEUROTOXIC COCKTAIL, TALL SHADOWS, INSADE @ l'Hémisphère Gauche - 19h - $20

Mardi 18 août – Tuesday August 18

SKEKSIS (Richmond), PIPER MARU (Toronto), WARKRUSHER @ Exhibit A - 19h - $12-20 NOTAFLOF

Samedi 22 août – Saturday August 22

NEUROOT (Holland), HOOD RATS, BACK TO DIE
@ Exhibit A - 20h - $20

Vendredi 28 août – Friday August 28

LOBOTOMITE, POWER DROP, KILLED (first show), FEARTILIZER @ Casa - 20h - $15

(BASTARD IDOL interview continued from front)

Melody: I have never been out east period so I am very excited to see everything there and in between for the first time!!

Felix: Oh also shout out to PEARL and CASCADES playing our hometown tour kick off! PEARL are great and CASCADES were my fav at the New Bands show this year

Emily and Felix you're doing double duty on this tour, hows your stamina? Are you prepared to do two sets each night?

Felix: We're definitely not gonna play back to back - for Emily's sake.

Emily: My plan was to have a training regime for drumming this summer but I haven't done any of it so hopefully I do ok

Felix: secret trash fest BI is playing in the afternoon and TORPOR is playing in the evening so that should be a nice interval of rest for her

Tour hypothetical: you're in the van, you're on hour 7 of New Brunswick, the energy is flagging, people are hangry. You have the proverbial aux. What do you put on to bring everyone back to life?

Emily: Oh my god that's an amazing question!! I feel like I'm the last person people usually want to give aux to cause I'm not the greatest at assessing the vibe to bring everyone else up but I've been listening to so much of the first two Hillary duff albums lately I would put either of those on.

That might push everyone over the edge though…

Seb: THIN LIZZY

Emily: I knew you'd say that

I saw it just got announced that you're playing Varning this year? Big deal, is everyone stoked?

Seb: This years Varning roster looks stacked, im really looking forward to seeing SALVAJE PUNK again, MOB 47, MUECO and ABISM and getting to chain smoke outside with Melody

Emily: Very stoked to play with MUECO and others.

Melody: MOB 47 and getting to see PORTAL TOMB again as i don't live in Montreal and that's the best stench band going!!!

You just have the demo out right? is there more recording in the works? Bigger releases planned?

Felix: We have 8 songs mostly finished – hopefully some kind of vinyl release in 2027

Anything else you wanna talk about? The state of punk, the meaning of life, etc?

Seb: More harsh noise in punk, more power, more chaos, more volume. Out with the uniforms and structures. Make music you want to hear the way you want to hear it, not for other people, not to cater or pertain or please anyone else.

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more shows + more info

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The band announcements for **Varning (Sept 17-19)** have been trickling out and the lineup looks incredible this year. Bands that have been announced so far: ABISM, ANÉANTIX, BASTARD IDOL, BOOT, DESTRUCT, DURS CŒURS, EARLY GRAVE, ESPRIT DE CORPS, EXTRAÑA HUMANA, FAZE, INJUR, LUMPEN, MILITARY SHADOW, MOB 47, MUECO, NUCLEAR FAMILY, PHANTOM RIDER, ΠΛΕΚΤΑΝΗ, PORTAL TOMB, PSYCHO TERRORIST DESPAIR SYSTEM, SALVAJE PUNK, SKULLNBONE, SPIROKETE, SYNAPTIC ISOLATION SYNDROME, TOTAL NADA, ULTIMATE DISASTER, UNIFORMED SERVICE, WARKRUSHER, YOUNG BLADES... *(Thank you to Amanda for liberating this info from Instagram!)*

QU'EST-CE QUE C'EST?

La Chaîne est une infolettre mensuelle et un calendrier de shows de la scène punk DIY Montréalaise. Envoyez-nous vos contributions en français et/ou en anglais: les annonces de spectacles punk/hardcore, les photos, l'art punk, les critiques et les petits annonces. (Soumettre un article n'est pas une garantie de la publication.)

WHAT IS THIS?

La Chaîne is a monthly newsletter and show calendar from the Montreal DIY punk scene. We are always looking for submissions in french and/or english: punk/hardcore show announcements, live photos, punk artwork, reviews and classified ads. (Submission does not guarantee publication.)

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